

Long Island Business News

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Who's Who | in Intellectual Property & Labor Law SHARON N. BERLIN, ESQ. Lamb & Barnosky, LLP

Sharon Berlin is a partner at Lamb & Barnosky in Melville. Berlin's practice covers all aspects of education and labor and employment law. Berlin has successfully represented private sector, school district and municipal clients in disciplinary proceedings, arbitration, improper practice proceedings, bargaining unit certification proceedings, contract negotiations, mediation, and a wide variety of federal and state court cases. She also has vast experience representing school districts in their general counsel matters and has developed a particular expertise in special education law. While the new administration's labor and employment agenda has the potential to be a boon for management labor and employment lawyers, it is the exact opposite for the employers Lamb & Barnosky represent, Berlin said.

"President Obama's legislative agenda includes many initiatives that would impose new restrictions on employers' ability to profitably and efficiently operate their businesses and would provide employees with new rights in areas ranging from minimum wages hikes, to streamlined proceedings over the terms of employment for newly unionized workers, to Family and Medical Leave Act coverage by smaller employers, to universal health care coverage," Berlin said. "As the representative of private and public sector employers, I have spent the better part of recent weeks assisting my clients with unprecedented work force reductions in staff. It is my hope that the new administration will recognize employers' need for financial stability rather than imposing new unfunded mandates upon them. Employers need incentives and tax relief that will allow for recovery and growth."

While improving the quality of life for America's work force is important, doing so without first providing the foundation to offset the increased costs of these proposed changes will hurt workers overall, Berlin noted.

Berlin is a member of the NYS Bar Association's Labor and Employment Law Section and a co-editor-in-chief of the Section's Public Sector Labor and Employment Law treatise. She is also a member of the executive committee

of the NYS Bar Association's Municipal Law Section and chair of that section's employment relations committee.

She serves on the board of directors for the LI Chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners and the advisory board to the Nassau Academy of Law. She is also co-chair of the honorary board for the Suffolk County Coalition Against Domestic Violence.



Berlin received the 2003 Nassau County Bar Association's Directors' Award for her outstanding service as chair of the labor and employment law committee. She has written numerous articles for the NYS Bar Association's Municipal Lawyer. She has lectured at programs sponsored by the NYS Bar Association, the Nassau/Suffolk Academies of Law, the National Association of Women Business Owners and the Society for Human Resources Management.

Berlin earned a bachelor's degree, with honors, Cornell University's School of Industrial and Labor and a juris doctor, with honors, from George Washington University National Law Center.



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